



COVID-19 FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

Sheraton Fairplex Hotel

Who will be allowed to stay at the Fairplex Sheraton Hotel medical shelter?

The Department of Public Health (DPH) will arrange medical sheltering and aims to keep individuals close to their communities. The only individuals who are permitted to reside in these locations are:

1. Individuals who have tested positive for COVID-19; or
2. Individuals who show symptoms of COVID-19 (for example have a fever, cough, or difficulty breathing) and are waiting for their test results.

Members of the public, including first responders and emergency workers, will be able to stay here if they meet the criteria above.

What is the process to get into the Sheraton Fairplex Hotel medical shelter?

A healthcare provider, law enforcement, or service agency first notifies DPH when they encounter an individual who is showing serious symptoms. Next, DPH's health professionals confirm which individuals qualify for medical sheltering and then coordinate where they will be placed. DPH looks at important factors, such as site availability, and then uses a system to assign individuals.

How does coronavirus spread? Does it travel through the air?

Public health officials have confirmed that coronavirus can be spread in several ways:

- Through the air in droplets produced by coughing and sneezing;
- Close personal contact (contact with a sick person); or
- Touching a surface with the virus on it, then touching your mouth, nose, or eyes before washing your hands.

For more information about how coronavirus is spread and how to stay safe, visit <http://covid19.lacounty.gov> or dial 2-1-1.

Can coronavirus live in air ducts like Legionnaires?

No, coronavirus (COVID-19) cannot live in air ducts like Legionnaires disease. Legionella grows in a building water system, and then gets spread in droplets in the air through that system. COVID-19 is spread via direct contact through droplets (sneeze or cough) or objects that have the virus.

How is the Sheraton Fairplex Hotel being secured during its use as a medical shelter?

A security company has been hired to secure the area.

Can people staying at the Sheraton Fairplex Hotel medical shelter come and go?

No, the individuals assigned to medical sheltering are under a Public Health Order that directs them to be quarantined or are self-isolated. People in the facility have either tested positive for COVID-19 or are awaiting test results and currently exhibiting symptoms -- but their symptoms are still mild enough to not merit hospitalization.

The main goal of COVID-19 medical shelters is to provide a safe place where individuals can both recover from symptoms and also isolate themselves so that they do not spread the coronavirus to others. All residents will not be allowed to leave the area until after their quarantine period ends.

Are more medical shelters, similar to the Fairplex Sheraton Hotel, being set up throughout the County?

Yes, and the County of Los Angeles is actively searching for more facilities that can help individuals who need to follow quarantine orders. For example, we arranged to use Dockweiler Beach to support people who need help complying with quarantine orders. County officials are working on developing more partnerships like this to slow the spread of coronavirus.

All locations set up by the County will have security on-site to ensure the health and safety of both the individuals residing at the facilities and local residents.

It is important to note that the County's effort is part of a greater response to COVID-19 that is being completed in partnership with the State of California. We are making every effort to respond to a national public health emergency. These facilities allow the County to slow the spread of COVID-19.

Did the City of Pomona authorize the use of the Fairplex Sheraton Hotel as a medical shelter?

The Fairplex Sheraton Hotel is a privately-owned business that entered into a direct agreement with the County of Los Angeles to help a national public health emergency.

This partnership will retain local jobs and generate tax revenues for the City of Pomona. The Fairplex Sheraton Hotel has always played a critical role in the economy of the City of Pomona and this temporary, short-term use of the Fairplex Sheraton Hotel allows that to continue. The Fairplex Sheraton has shown leadership and compassion in working with the County in order to support the community and ensure its safety during this public health crisis.

This partnership supports first responders -- including firefighters and police officers in the City of Pomona -- by offering a Child Development Center for those individuals protecting our community from the pandemic.

Will any support be provided to the broader community of Pomona?

Yes. A drive-through food pantry operated by Sowing Seeds for Life will be located and open to any Los Angeles County resident with identification. The drive-through will be located at the Fairplex Gate 15, on the La Verne side of the campus. Los Angeles County residents are welcome from 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. every first and third Wednesday of the month, starting April 1, 2020.

Also, the Fairplex Child Development Center has opened its doors to the children of healthcare workers, first responders and law enforcement. This is an important community support service during the COVID-19 crisis.